



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
FOI/Records Management Section  
8701 Morrisette Drive  
Springfield, Virginia 22152

Case Number: 18-00874-F

FEB 22 2019

Subject: Copies of any requests for documents, information, briefings or testimony sent to either the director's office or the appropriate congressional liaison office between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2017

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 56834  
411 A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144-2516  
[56834-78649473@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:56834-78649473@requests.muckrock.com)

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Act request emailed June 29, 2018, to the DEA.FOIA mailbox, seeking access to DEA records. Your request has been opened and assigned the above case number. Please include this case number when corresponding with this office.

Please be advised that your request has been thoroughly reviewed and a tasking memorandum has been forwarded to the Office of Congressional and Public Affairs which is the office within the DEA that would be best suited, or would likely maintain the records that are responsive to this request. As a result of their search, it has been determined that your request as written is overly broad and should be further defined. For instance, it is not clear if you are looking for documents from Congressional Members or staff requesting "documents, information, briefings, or testimony sent to the director's office or the appropriate congressional liaison office," or if you are seeking related materials requested by any party sent to the director's office or the appropriate congressional liaison office. Additionally, are you referring to the DEA's Administrator's office versus the "director's office?" Finally, your request covers two years and should be further refined to a more specific subject area(s) and/or time frame(s) in order to appropriately respond.

To this end, no further action will be initiated on this request until we are in receipt of a reasonable description of records sought. If this office does not receive your response within 30 days, DEA will assume that you do not wish to pursue this matter and your request will be administratively closed. Please forward your response to the following address:

DEA Headquarters  
Attn: FOIA/PA Unit (SARF)  
8701 Morrisette Drive  
Springfield, VA 22152

As you are aware, the FOIA provides for three categories of requesters. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii). The FOIA defines a representative of the news media as a person or entity "that gathers information of potential interest to a segment of the public, uses its editorial skills to turn the raw materials into a distinct work, and distributes that work to an audience." *Id.* at § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii); *see also Cause of Action v. FTC*, 799 F.3d 1108 (D.C. Cir. 2015). We have determined that you are making this request as a "representative of the news media," therefore; you will not be charged search fees.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 202-307-7596 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you have any questions regarding this letter, you may contact our Customer Service Hotline at 202-307-7596.

Sincerely,



Katherine L. Myrick, Chief  
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Unit  
FOI/Records Management Section